GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

C.A.F & C.S. Department – Public Distribution System – Distribution of Course grains and millets under P.D.S. and introduction of Direct Benefit Transfer under Public Distribution System – Re-Constitution of Group of Ministers (GoM) for examination and recommendation to Government – Orders – Issued.

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CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES (CS I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No:22 Dated:20-04-2022.

Read the following :

G.O.Rt.No.43, CAF&CS (CS.I) Department, dated: 29.7.2019.

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O R D E R :

In the G.O. read above, Government have issued orders to constitute a Committee with the following Ministers to examine various options to improve the quality of Rice including sortex, bagging material and bagging machinery and come up with suitable recommendations needed to improve quality of rice in Public Distribution System (PDS) and to start the doorstep delivery of Rice to eligible households in packed form from 1st Sept. 2019 onwards and Ex. Officio Secretary to Govt., CAF&CS Department shall be convenor of the said Group of Ministers (GoM)

1.Minister for Finance
2. Minister for Agriculture
3. Minister for Housing
4. Minister for Consumer Afairs, Food and Civil Supplies

2. During the review meeting held by Hon'ble Chief Minister on 28.4.2021 on certain proposals for reforms in the Civil Supplies Department, it was decided that, "in order to finalize the implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer(DBT), a Group of Ministers may be formed" .The GoM would visit Puducherry and Chandigarh to examine the pros and cons of Public Distribution System's DBT and take a view on its implementation.

3. Further, the Commissioner Health and Family Welfare Department, Guntur has stated that Non-Communicable Diseases can be prevented and managed by change in the lifestyle and taking appropriate diet. Government of India has suggested that whole grains like whole wheat, brown rice, oats, unprocessed maize, millets in diet will reduce the risk of hypertension and diabetes. A diet rich in whole grains has been shown to reduce the risk of heart disease, type-II diabetes, obesity and some forms of cancer. The Commissioner Health and Family Welfare Department, Guntur has requested to take action to diversify the Public Distribution System from rice to other products for prevention and management of hypertension, diabetes and other Non-Communicable Disease.

4. In the existing PDS or alternative models of PDS there is a fixed food basket and beneficiaries wouldn't have a choice to opt their food basket. Beneficiaries can choose their of food and also protective foods like vegetables and fruits consumption can increase further so that non communicable incidences may come down. To diversify the dietary patterns among PDS beneficiaries, Direct Benefit Transfer of cash in lieu of rice or other commodities is another possible solution.

5. Therefore, Committee constituted in the G.O. read above, is also be requested to work out the alternative food models in PDS to address burgeoning problems of Diabetes and Hypertension and other Non Communicable Diseases and to introduce the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) in PDS to opt benefciary's choice of food from the market instead of rice

ToRs for the Committee:

In addition to the ToR mentioned in the said GO the following terms of references are added for the smooth implementation of PDS in Andhra Pradesh.

i. Explore the feasibility of implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer under Public Distribution System.

ii. Study the experiences of UTs of Chandigarh, Puducherry and Dadra & Nagar Haveli where DBT in PDS is currently implementing.

iii. Study and recommend alternate food models including the possibilities on the introduction of course grains and millets in lieu of rice under PDS, for prevention and management of hypertension, diabetes and other Non-Communicable Diseases.

iv. May recommend any other reforms in Public Distribution System (PDS) from time to time

6. The Ex. Officio Secretary to Govt. Consumer Affairs, Food & Civil Supplies department shall be the Secretary to the above Group of Ministers.

7. The Chairman, AP State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited (APSCSCL) shall also be nominated as a Special Invitee to participate in GoM meetings.

8. The Secretary of the Group of Ministers(GoM) is requested to submit recommendations of the Group of Ministers on the above with in a period of two weeks.

9. A copy of this order is available at apegazette.cgg.gov.in

(BY ORDER IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

M GIRIJA SHANKAR
EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Planning
The Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Cooperation
The Hon''ble Minster for Housing
The Hon'ble Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Civil Supplies
The Ex.Officio Secretary to Government and Convenor CAF&CS Department
The Chairman, APSCSCL., A.P.Vijayawada
Copy to Ex. Officio Joint Secretary to Govt. and Director of Civil Supplies, A.P. Vijayawada
Copy to V.C., MD., APSCSCL., A.P. Vijayawada.
Copy to the Commissioner, Printing and Stationery, A.P., Vijayawada with a request to publish the G.O. in ap gazette.

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER